

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
**Office of Electricity, Delivery and  
Energy Reliability**



# **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

**August 11, 2005**

## **Electricity**

### **WP&L Sets Electricity Demand Record**

Wisconsin Power & Light Company, a subsidiary of Alliant Energy, reported a new record set for electricity use at about 4 p.m. August 10, when customers used about 2,830 megawatts of electricity, nine megawatts above the previous record set last week.

<http://www.gazetteextra.com/alliant081005.asp>

### **21,500 Com Ed Customers Lost Power in Illinois Due to Fire at Substation**

Approximately 11,000 customers remained without power this morning after losing power yesterday due to a fire at a power substation in Darien, Illinois. Power is expected to be restored tonight.

<http://www.nbc5.com/news/4836579/detail.html?rss=chi&psp=news>

### **BPA Transmission Lines Shut Down Due to Fire Late Wednesday**

A wildfire propelled by gusty winds in western Montana brushed under Bonneville Power Administration transmission lines late on August 10, causing a major line to the West Coast to shut down. No disruptions occurred and none are expected since BPA is able to reroute the flow of electricity without major difficulty.

<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050811/NEWS01/508110308/1002>

### **Closer Cooperation and Coordination Help Grid Operators Meet Unprecedented Demand for Electric Power**

Daily conference calls, interregional operating agreements, and improved coordination have helped grid operators in the Eastern Interconnection, encompassing nearly all of the area east of the Rockies, to meet unprecedented demand for electricity with relatively few problems so far this summer.

<http://www.energycentral.com/centers/news/daily/article.cfm?aid=5870608>

<http://www.pjm.com/contributions/news-releases/2005/20050810-cooperation-among-electric-grid-operators.pdf>

### **Texas Genco's 560 MW Coal-Fired WA Parish Unit 7 in TX Back Soon**

According to a report filed with Texas regulators, the 560 MW Unit 7 will be restarted August 11-12 following boiler tube repairs.

Reuters 7:45 August 11, 2005

### **Update-Dominion Resources 917 MW North Anna 2 Nuke in VA at 100 Percent August 11**

According to a Nuclear Regulatory Commission report, the 917 MW North Anna 2 was back at full power early today. The unit tripped on August 5 due to a lightning strike and was exiting the outage over the weekend.

Reuters 7:19 August 11, 2005

### **Brunswick Unit 1 Returns to Service**

The 895 MW unit 1 at the Brunswick nuclear generating station of Progress Energy returned to service and had ramped up to 35 percent of capacity by the morning of August 11. The company announced that unit 2 would remain shut for a few days longer.

Bloomberg 11:08, August 11, 2005.

### **OPG's 494 MW Lambton 3 Coal-Fired Facility in Ontario Shut August 11**

Reuters 13:57 August 11, 2005

### **DTE's 260 MW LaPaloma 2 Gas-Fired Facility in California Shut August 11**

Reuters 14:20 August 11, 2005

## **Petroleum**

### **NYMEX Crude Hits New High**

WTI futures contract prices hit another all-time high surpassing \$66 per barrel by the middle of the day as concerns about supply and refinery problems continued to affect the market. September WTI closed down slightly from the high on the day at \$65.89.

Reuters 12:20, August 11, 2005.

### **NYMEX Gasoline Hits New High**

Driven by increased demand and continuing refinery problems, the futures price of gasoline rose to an all-time high for the third day this week,. The NYMEX price climbed by more than five cents to \$1.9498 per gallon, the highest price since the origin of the gasoline contract in 1984.

Bloomberg 15:30, August 11, 2005.

### **BP Shuts Additional Units at Texas City for Inspection**

According to media reports, in the wake of numerous problems BP has shut all of the high pressure units at its 460,000 b/d Texas City refinery so that the units can be inspected.

Reuters 10:36, August 11, 2005.

### **ConocoPhillips Wood River refinery Hit by Power Outage**

ConocoPhillips' 306,000 b/d Wood River in Illinois was hit by a power outage during a thunderstorm late in the afternoon of August 8. Several units were affected and the company is in the process of restoring power to the refinery. The company declined to provide an estimate as to when operations would return to normal.

Reuters 11:58, August 11, 2005.

### **Supply from OPEC Rose by 285,000 b/d in July**

According the the IEA, OPEC supplied 285,000 b/d more crude oil during July than had been the case in June: 29.6 million barrels per day versus 29.32 million.

Reuters 4:00, August 11, 2005.

## **Natural Gas**

### **Spot Natural Gas Hits 2 Year High**

Continued hot weather pushed both spot and futures prices for natural gas higher once again. The Henry Hub spot price closed at 9.29 a two year high, the spot price has gained some 17 percent in the past seven sessions. The futures price on the NYMEX closed at \$9.38.

Reuters 13:58, August 11, 2005.

## CenterPoint to Replace Faulty Pipe in 37 Communities

Following a fatal explosion in Minnesota in December 2004, CenterPoint Energy is replacing gas lines in some 37 communities in the state. The company has thus far replaced approximately 9,000 lines in 20 communities of the 32,000 lines it will eventually replace.

<http://www.duluthsuperior.com/mld/duluthsuperior/news/local/12355744.htm>

[http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news\\_article.cfm?id=5870348](http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=5870348)

## TransCanada Considers Converting Its Natural Gas Mainline to Oil Pipeline

As part of its proposed 1,870 mile Keystone oil pipeline project from Alberta to Illinois, TransCanada Corporation is considering converting a 770-mile section of its natural gas mainline from near the Alberta-Saskatchewan border to transport oil.

<http://powermarketers.netcontentinc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8kowu%5D%5BefhjonowTebt%3EEvbfek%5Cv>

## Other News

### Ground Broken on world's Largest Biodiesel Plant

Ground was broken on August 10, 2005 on Cargill's new Biodiesel plant in Iowa Falls, Iowa. The new plant will produce 37.5 million gallons of fuel annually, making it the largest such facility in the world. The company expects production to begin in April of 2006.

Sources: Cargill, Charles City Press

[http://www.cargill.com/news/news\\_releases/050608\\_biodiesel.htm](http://www.cargill.com/news/news_releases/050608_biodiesel.htm)

[http://www.charlescitypress.com/articles/2005/08/11/news/local\\_news/news03.txt](http://www.charlescitypress.com/articles/2005/08/11/news/local_news/news03.txt)

### Ohio River Reopened to Limited Traffic

The Coast Guard has reopened a section of the Ohio River that had been closed since the night of August 7 when low-water caused four vessels and their barges to run aground. Because of the low level of water, the Coast Guard is restricting traffic until a dredging project on a section of about six miles near the Mississippi River can be completed. The area is suffering from the worst drought since 1988.

Reuters 13:22, August 11, 2005.

## Energy Prices

	Latest (08/11/05)	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate US</b> \$/Barrel	65.67	61.60	44.72
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	9.29	8.55	5.64

Source: Reuters

**This Week in Petroleum** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

*Updated on Wednesdays*

**Weekly Petroleum Status Report** from EIA

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

*Updated after 1:00pm (Eastern time) on Wednesdays*

**Natural Gas Weekly Update** from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

*Updated after 2:00 pm (Eastern time) on Thursdays*

**ENSEC threat awareness blog site** from Energy Assurance

<http://ensec.blogspot.com>